

II. Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

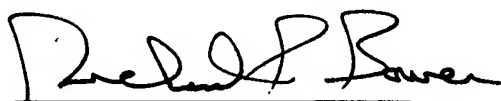
Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claim 1 is the sole independent claim.

Attached hereto is a Supplemental Application Data Sheet specifying the appropriate related application information and the priority data for the subject application, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.76(c).

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard P. Bauer', written over a horizontal line.

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